

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 67

By Roberts

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of James "J.R." Rogers of Cheatham County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of James "J.R." Rogers of Cheatham County; and

WHEREAS, the tragic accident that fatally injured Mr. Rogers occurred on December 24, 2016. A HELP operator for the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT), he was assisting a motorist with a flat tire on Interstate 40 when he was struck by a passing car; he succumbed to his injuries and passed away on the evening of December 28, 2016, at Vanderbilt University Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rogers was a servant-hearted individual who always put others before himself; in fact, moments before the accident that would ultimately claim his life, he instructed the owner of the disabled vehicle to get inside the car because it was too dangerous to be on the shoulder of the interstate; and

WHEREAS, on January 6, 2017, the day of J.R. Rogers's funeral service, approximately fifty TDOT trucks and eighty employees lined the streets of Pleasant View for the procession to the cemetery; they issued a final radio call in his honor, and his truck, no. 7317, was officially retired; and

WHEREAS, a 2004 graduate of Cheatham County Central High School, J.R. Rogers was a leader on the football team; such was his enduring devotion to and love for the team that he later returned to his alma mater as a member of the coaching staff. Whether as member of the team or a coach, he worked to change the culture of the football program for the better; and

WHEREAS, a well-known pillar of his community, Mr. Rogers, in addition to his work with TDOT, owned his own lawn care business, J-Yards, an enterprise he headed with business acumen and honesty; and

WHEREAS, J.R. Rogers leaves behind a five-year-old son, devoted fiancée, and countless family members, friends, and coworkers who mourn his passing; and

WHEREAS, though he is sorely missed, he is fondly remembered as a hard-working, humble, and loyal individual with a contagious smile—a respectable, genuine, and positive young man filled with laughter and the desire to help others; and

WHEREAS, in the face of overwhelming and incomprehensible tragedy, the loved ones of J.R. Rogers can take comfort in the fact that during his three short decades of life, he lived with integrity and walked in good character, and his courageous, compassionate, and kind spirit will continue to serve as an inspiration for others; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we honor the memory of this upstanding young gentleman; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor the memory of James "J.R." Rogers and extend our deepest sympathies to his family.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.